

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → []

PTO/SB08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002 OMB 0651-0031
Patent and Trademark Office; U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

COMPLETE IF KNOWN

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

SHEET 1 of 1

Application Number	09/862,869
Confirmation Number	1083
Filing Date	May 22, 2001
First Named Inventor	N. Honma et al.
Group Art Unit	1751
Examiner Name	NOT YET ASSIGNED
Attorney Docket Number	AA472

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENT Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
ME		3,650,816	A	Rudy et al.	03-21-1972	
ME		4,026,131	A	Dugger et al.	05-31-1977	
ME		4,099,912	A	Ehrlich	07-11-1978	
ME		4,654,395	A	Schulz et al.	03-31-1987	
ME		4,835,804	A	Arnau-Munoz et al.	06-06-1989	
ME		5,080,810	A	Smith et al.	01-14-1992	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. ¹	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT Office ³ Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
ME		EP 0 157 653	A2	Flynn et al.	10-09-1985		
ME		EP 0 284 191	A2	Ogar et al.	09-28-1988		
ME		EP 0 918 089	A1	Masschelein	05-29-1999		
ME		PCT WO 96/30489	A2	Beaujean	10-03-1996		
ME		PCT WO 98/05814	A2	Young et al.	02-12-1998		
ME		PCT WO 98/16614	A1	Miracle et al.	04-23-1998		
ME		PCT WO 00/23646	A1	VanHauwermeiren et al.	04-27-2000		

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ⁶

EXAMINER <i>M. Eidsman</i>	DATE CONSIDERED <i>7.23.03</i>
-------------------------------	-----------------------------------

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.